

Queen Mary's Grammar School



A message from the Headmaster, May 2018

Dear parents/guardians

The past month

We are well into the exam season and it has been good to see so many constructive revision sessions going on for the GCSE and A-level students. I wish all of the students well in their examinations and hope the hard work pays off. We were able to celebrate with the Year 13s as they signed off their time in school. Whether it has been a seven or two-year journey, they have made a real impact on school life and the pupil senior leadership team have been quite exceptional. Their successors have a tough act to follow!

May has seen the first Year 7 Farchynys weeks take place and the groups have been lucky with the Welsh weather for once! Photos can be found on the QMGS Houses and Geography twitter accounts:

<https://twitter.com/QMGSHouses>

<https://twitter.com/qmgsgeoging>

The good weather has also allowed lots of cricket to be played and the Under 13s collected the first silverware of the season with victory in the Tettenhall College tournament. Mr Gibbons and Mr Hawkins also accompanied the team on the inaugural Year 8 tour to the Isle of Man. Photos and results can be found on QMGS Cricket twitter account:

<https://twitter.com/QMGSCRICKET>

Building work

The school has been successful in winning funding for two major projects over the next year. Starting at the end of May, contractors will be on site to begin a project to add an additional floor onto the science block and to extend some classrooms in Moss Close. This is to facilitate the growth of the school. Later in the year, a project will begin to re-model and improve the provision for DT and Art.

There will be some disruption to school life, but we are working hard behind the scenes to try and minimise this. In the first instance, there will be some changes to parking arrangements, with no parking available on the parade ground (next to Food Technology) from after half term. At the end of June, the community car park will be out of bounds. Most of the invasive work will take place over the summer holiday and I will write to you in the near future with more exact arrangements.

QMA

As mentioned in the previous update, the summer BBQ (with entertainment provided by the The Bierkeller Schunklers Bavarian German Oompah Band) will take place on Saturday 23rd June, as an afternoon/early evening event. Please look out for further details on this.

The QMA will be represented at the induction events for new Year 7 parents in June and we hope to recruit the next generation of volunteers who give so much to the life of the school. If you are interested in being part of the QMA, please contact Judy McCoy at postbox@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk

Please also follow the QMA twitter page [@qmgs1554qma](https://twitter.com/qmgs1554qma)

The QMA are also promoting the **Easy Fundraising scheme** – a great way of raising money for the school with very little effort. Make sure you register, if you haven't already, at:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/queenmarysgrammar/>

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School day consultation

I wrote to you last month about proposals for a slight change in the school day. You will have received a letter and I am grateful for the feedback already received. Please do send me through any other thoughts. The letter can be found on the School's website:

http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/content/letters/2018_april_changes_school_day.pdf

GDPR

I'm sure you will have read news headlines of the new GDPR regulations coming into force on 25th May. A significant amount of work has gone on behind the scenes and we will be in touch very soon over new privacy notices.

Vacancies in the school

We are currently advertising job vacancies in the school for a Library Resource Manager and a weekend site team member (to look after lettings). Please see the vacancies tab on the website if you are interested in either of these roles.

Upcoming events in June

- **Return from half term** – Monday 4th June
- **Whole school open evening** - Thursday 14th June, 6pm-8.30pm (school finishes early on this day to allow for the set up)
- **Year 11 book return day** - Friday 15th June
- **Year 13 book return day** - Friday 22nd June
- **QMA summer event** – Saturday 23rd June

I hope you have a great half term holiday when it arrives

Warm regards



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